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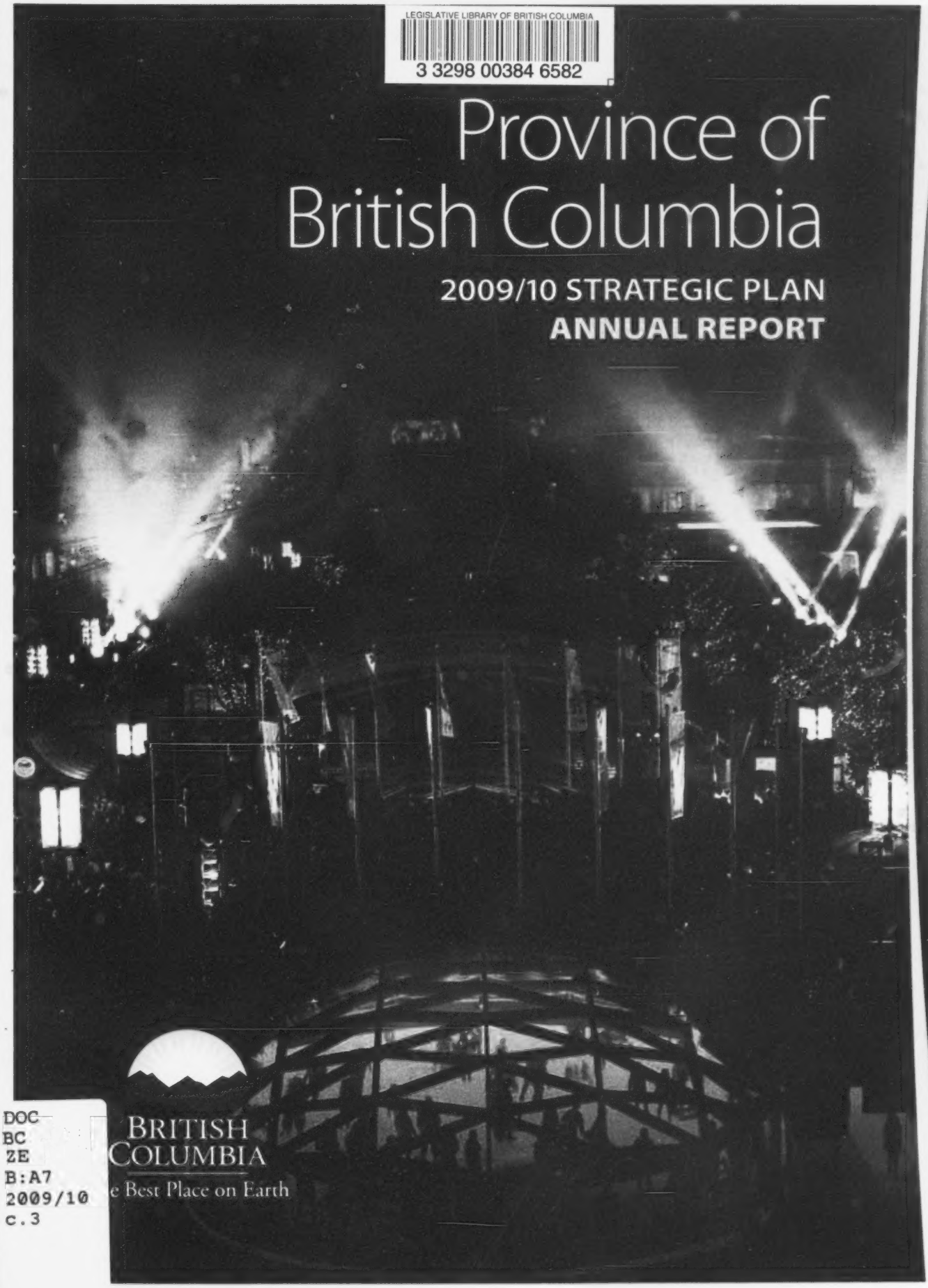
Province of British Columbia

2009/10 STRATEGIC PLAN
ANNUAL REPORT



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Great Goals for a Golden Decade

1 *Make B.C. the best educated, most literate jurisdiction on the continent.*

2 *Lead the way in North America in healthy living and physical fitness.*

3 *Build the best system of support in Canada for persons with disabilities, those with special needs, children at risk and seniors.*

4 *Lead the world in sustainable environmental management, with the best air and water quality, and the best fisheries management, bar none.*

5 *Create more jobs per capita than anywhere else in Canada.*

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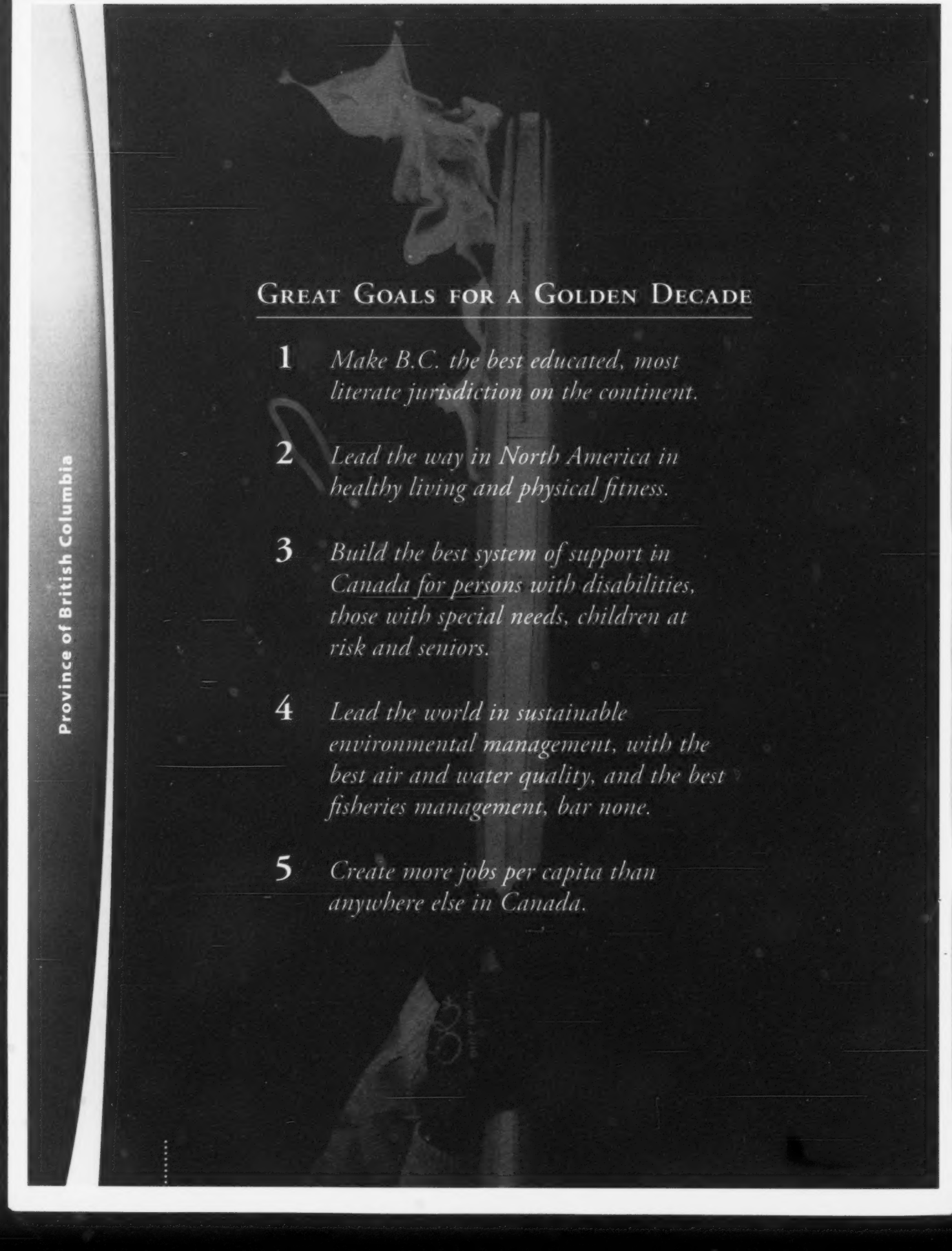

Great Goals for a Golden Decade

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To be a prosperous and just province, whose citizens achieve their potential and have confidence in the future.

Government's core values are

- **Integrity**: to make decisions in a manner that is consistent, professional, fair, transparent and balanced;
- **Fiscal Responsibility**: to implement affordable public policies;
- **Accountability**: to enhance efficiency, effectiveness and the credibility of government;
- **Respect**: to treat all citizens equitably, compassionately and respectfully; and
- **Choice**: to afford citizens the opportunity to exercise self-determination.

Letter From The Premier

The 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games introduced our province to the world and gave British Columbia a foundation to build a stronger province and create new opportunities for families. As we build on that momentum, we are seeing positive signs that B.C.'s economy is starting to turn around, creating jobs and helping to build a better quality of life for all British Columbians.

The 2009/10 Strategic Plan Annual Report outlines how the Province is continuing to build long-term economic stability through a more competitive and productive economy. Higher productivity means higher paychecks and increasing trade with our international customers. We are adopting a Harmonized Sales Tax, which experts say will create more than 110,000 jobs and $11 billion in new investment. As a result of previous tax reductions, British Columbia now has the lowest income taxes in Canada and among the lowest business taxes in the world.

We have also been investing in the infrastructure necessary to support long-term job creation. Working with our federal partners we are making record investments in new roads, bridges, public transit, housing, hospitals, schools and other important projects. We've launched 850 accelerated infrastructure projects, generating an estimated 34,000 jobs as part of the Province's commitment to almost $21 billion in capital spending over the next three years. Those investments will support economic growth in every region of the province and help us capitalize on our advantage as Canada's Pacific Gateway.

We have moved forward with the new Clean Energy Act, to build on our clean, renewable power heritage, ensure British Columbia becomes electricity self-sufficient and protect competitive rates for British Columbians. We're undertaking the largest investment in B.C.'s clean energy assets including the Site C Clean Energy Project that will create over 35,000 jobs, produce enough electricity to power more than 400,000 homes annually.

A strong economy will allow us to invest in the important public services citizens rely on. We are investing more than ever before in valuable social services such as health care, education, housing, income assistance and much more. We are building new homes for low-income families and seniors and supporting families through full-day kindergarten for five-year-olds.

Our plan lays out a vision to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions in British Columbia and across North America; to continue building a New Relationship with First Nations to close social and economic gaps and to remove barriers to trade and labour mobility across Canada.

This Strategic Plan Annual report outlines the vision and priorities for British Columbia over the next three years. Further details on each Ministry's role in these priorities can be found in individual Ministry Service Plans and Annual Service Plan Reports.

Honourable Gordon Campbell
Premier of British Columbia

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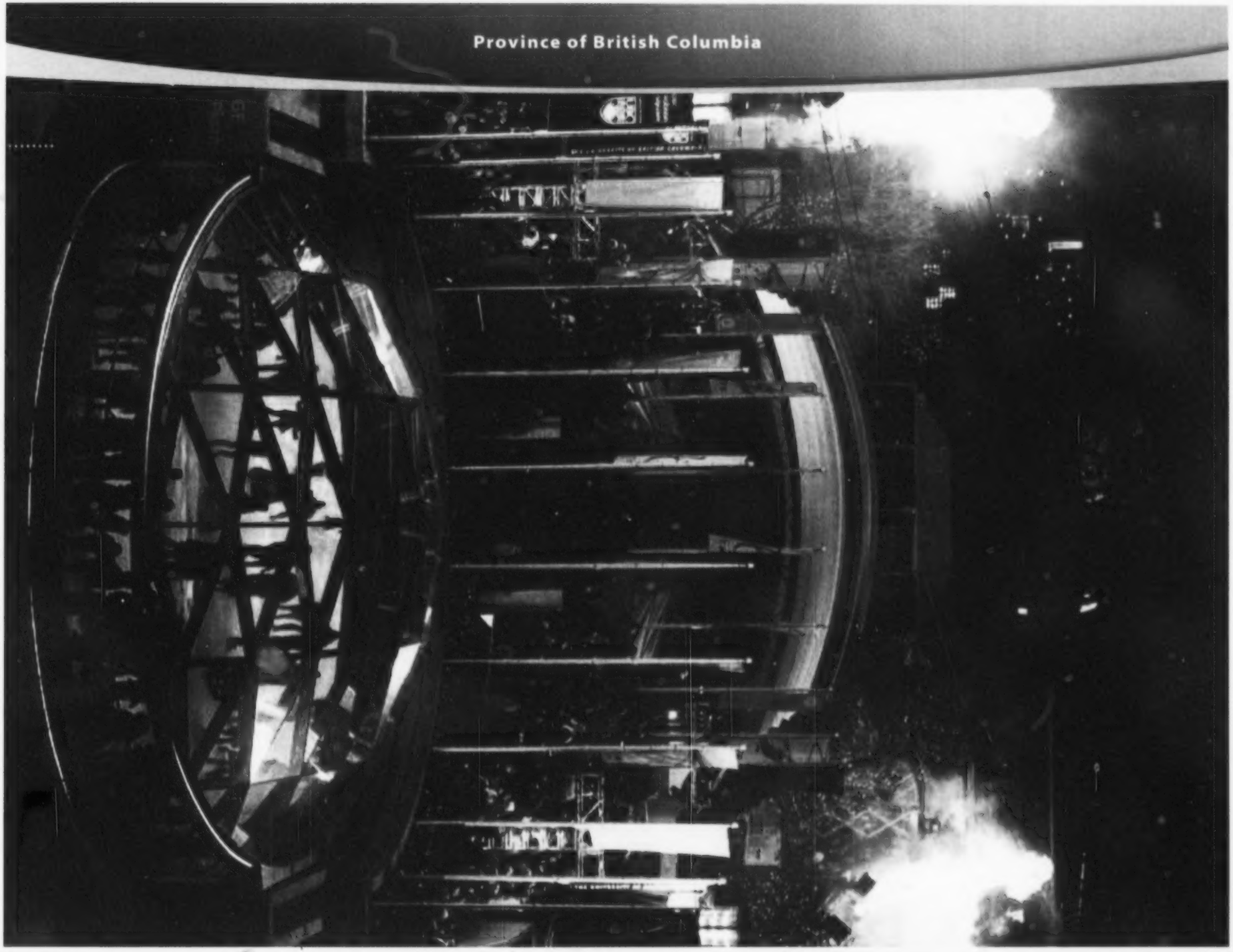

Province of British Columbia

A Healthy Economy

Great Goal

Create more jobs per capita than anywhere else in Canada.

A healthy economy is the key to a healthy, prosperous British Columbia, and this government continues to focus on its primary goal of fostering economic growth and strength. According to Statistics Canada, B.C. created 49,300 jobs between April 2009 and April 2010. That represents 22 per cent of the jobs created in Canada in these 12 months. B.C.'s unemployment rate fell to 7.3 per cent in April 2010, the third lowest in Canada.

As part of the 850 major infrastructure projects launched across B.C. to date, the governments of Canada and British Columbia announced 174 new infrastructure projects valued at about $719 million to further stimulate the economy, create jobs and support continued economic growth. The new projects are expected to create 4,600 more jobs, bringing the total to an estimated 34,000 jobs throughout British Columbia.

Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games

The 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games provided us with the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to showcase our beautiful Province, including our skilled people, strategic location and competitive tax rates. The 2010 Business Hosting Program helped ensure that B.C. maximized opportunities to promote business development and foster new business connections to attract long-term economic benefits to British Columbia. The Program hosted 113 business events that attracted 15,000 attendees and close to 80 bilateral meetings between business guests and government, in additional to opportunities for countless meetings privately organized by the business community.

Tax and competitiveness

B.C. has the lowest provincial personal income taxes in Canada for individuals earning up to $118,000 annually. On January 1, 2010 the basic personal income tax credit increased 17 per cent, from $9,373 to $11,000. For most taxpayers, personal income tax rates have been reduced by 37 per cent or more since 2001.

The Province has also worked hard to make it easier for small businesses to have success. B.C. has lowered the small business corporate income tax rate from 4.5 to 2.5 per cent in 2008 – a 44 per cent reduction – for an estimated total savings of $401 million for small business. This is the second lowest rate in Canada. The Province intends to eliminate the small business corporate income tax by April 1, 2012.

The introduction of the Harmonized Sales Tax (HST) on July 1, 2010 is widely regarded as the single most important step that British Columbia can take to strengthen the economy. Many of the direct jobs in British Columbia – more than 500,000 – are today supported by our major industries: mining, oil and gas, forestry, transportation, construction and manufacturing. Those industries compare tax rates from around the world before deciding when to invest in a business, new machinery or new jobs. The HST will lower tax on new investment by 40 per cent, helping to create more than 110,000 jobs and attract $11 billion in new investment by 2020 in every region of the province.

The Asia-Pacific region is the fastest-growing marketplace for B.C. exports. We continued to expand our international presence with a new office in India, and hosted 111 inbound and 77 outbound missions. A life sciences summit in Vancouver opened the door to more research and development partnerships between British Columbia and India.

To create Canada's largest interprovincial barrier-free trade and investment market, British Columbia, Alberta and Saskatchewan concluded the New West Partnership Trade Agreement, creating an internal western Canadian market of 9 million people and $555 Billion in GDP, also launching collaborative efforts on innovation, procurement and trade.

We continued efforts to reduce or eliminate unnecessary barriers to trade, investment and labour mobility. We implemented the Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement with Alberta and have since launched the New West Partnership with Saskatchewan and Alberta, creating an economic powerhouse of nine million people with a combined GDP of more than $550 billion. We also worked with the Government of Canada and other provinces to enhance the Agreement on Internal Trade by negotiating a new chapter on Agriculture. Working closely with the federal government we concluded an interim agreement with the U.S. to resolve Buy America restrictions and expand our access to U.S. procurement markets, and directly participated at the negotiating table in the ongoing Canada-European Union trade treaty talks.

The Green Economy

The province is committed to growing British Columbia's green energy sectors to generate wealth and create new jobs. The Innovative Clean Energy (ICE) fund awarded $22.6 million to 19 projects focused on rural communities with an additional $10 million awarded to eight projects under the one-time Liquid Fuels from Biomass Call. An additional $6.6 million was awarded to two projects under the first intake of the Third Call.

We boosted B.C.'s green economy by making another $25 million available under the Innovative Clean Energy Fund, which has now committed more than $60 million to 41 projects across the province with a total value of nearly $235 million. As well, nine of the ten top-valued proposed construction projects listed in the Province's Major Projects Inventory in the last quarter of 2009 had a clean energy focus.

We announced the Green Energy Advisory Task Force, with membership including clean energy and climate experts, First Nations and community representatives and environmentalists. The Task Force recommended strategic action for turning British Columbia's clean power potential into real economic, environmental and social benefits for British Columbians. The work of the task force helped inform the development of the new Clean Energy Act. The act will build on our clean, renewable power heritage, ensure British Columbia becomes electricity self-sufficient and protect competitive rates for British Columbians. The province is also undertaking the largest investment in B.C.'s clean energy assets including the Site C Clean Energy Project that will create over 35,000 jobs, produce enough clean electricity to power more than 400,000 homes annually and support growing industries.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Lands' Environmental Farm Planning and Beneficial Management Practices programs were allocated up to $3.23 million and $6.7 million respectively. These programs give B.C.'s farmers the opportunity to assess their operational strengths and risks, determine their overall environmental footprint, and develop and implement an action plan. Environmental Farm Plans and Beneficial Management Practices are broad-based, voluntary, and producer driven programs aimed at identifying and reducing environmental risks on farms.

Strengthening B.C.'s Forestry Sector

The government continued to support the forestry sector as it deals with U.S. housing market and mountain pine beetle impacts, including supporting expanded markets for our lumber and supporting our workers through times of transition. B.C. lumber exports to China in 2009 reached 1.63 billion board feet, double the volume of 2008. China is now our second largest customer by volume. And with the signing of an agreement with the Chinese Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development at the end of March, we will be able to work with them to design and build a six-storey building in Beijing to demonstrate wood-frame design to Chinese developers, officials, and consumers.

In October 2009, we enacted the Wood First Act that requires wood to be used as the primary building material in provincially-funded building. We used the 2010 Olympic Games as an opportunity to showcase the durability, beauty and climate-friendly properties of wood-frame construction to the world. Mayors of nine municipalities have now passed WoodFirst resolutions so that their communities use wood as a primary construction material as well.

We continued to support forestry workers through an additional $30 million investment into the Job Opportunities Program. This was matched through our partnerships with the federal government, resulting in an additional $30 million from Canada.

Supporting Small Business and Rural Development

The province experienced one of the most economically-challenging years in recent history, and it has been particularly difficult for resource-based communities. During this time, the B.C. government has provided unwavering support for rural B.C.

The Province has launched the largest infrastructure program in BC history to create jobs and enhance services in communities across BC. To date the province has announce 850 accelerated infrastructure projects throughout British Columbia, generating an estimated 34,000 jobs, as part of the Province's commitment to almost $21 billion in capital spending over the next three years.

More recently, rising commodity prices have started to provide relief to regional economies. Investment in mineral exploration activity reached $154 million in 2009, much of this flowing to northern B.C., with $65 million in mineral exploration happening in Northwest B.C. alone. The 30 mine development projects now under provincial review hold billions of dollars of economic potential that could benefit all British Columbians.

Small business is an essential driver of stability and recovery.

A 2009 report provided a significant indication of the economic health of small business in British Columbia. The Small Business Profile 2009 showed that B.C. leads the country in the number of small businesses per capita, in the share of self-employed workers and the sector's contribution to GDP among other things. There were 87.7 small businesses per 1,000 people in B.C. in 2008. These businesses accounted for 34 per cent of British Columbia's GDP, the highest of all provinces. British Columbia's share of self-employed workers accounts for 18.5 per cent of total employment, well above the national average of 15.4 per cent.

In partnership with the Northern, Island Coastal and Interior Development Trusts, and the Business Development Bank of Canada, the B.C. government piloted delivery of small business workshops and on-site business diagnostics to enhance the productivity and competitiveness of small businesses in Campbell River, Cranbrook and Prince George. As well, $17 million has been invested in ten projects around B.C. to small businesses offering skills training for unemployed and under-qualified workers to benefit the hospitality, construction and food service industries, among others.

Rural infrastructure was supported through continued implementation of $20 million in targeted upgrades to more than 200 Forest Service roads. These roads provide important transportation links and the upgrades will improve travel and safety conditions for residents in about 70 rural communities.

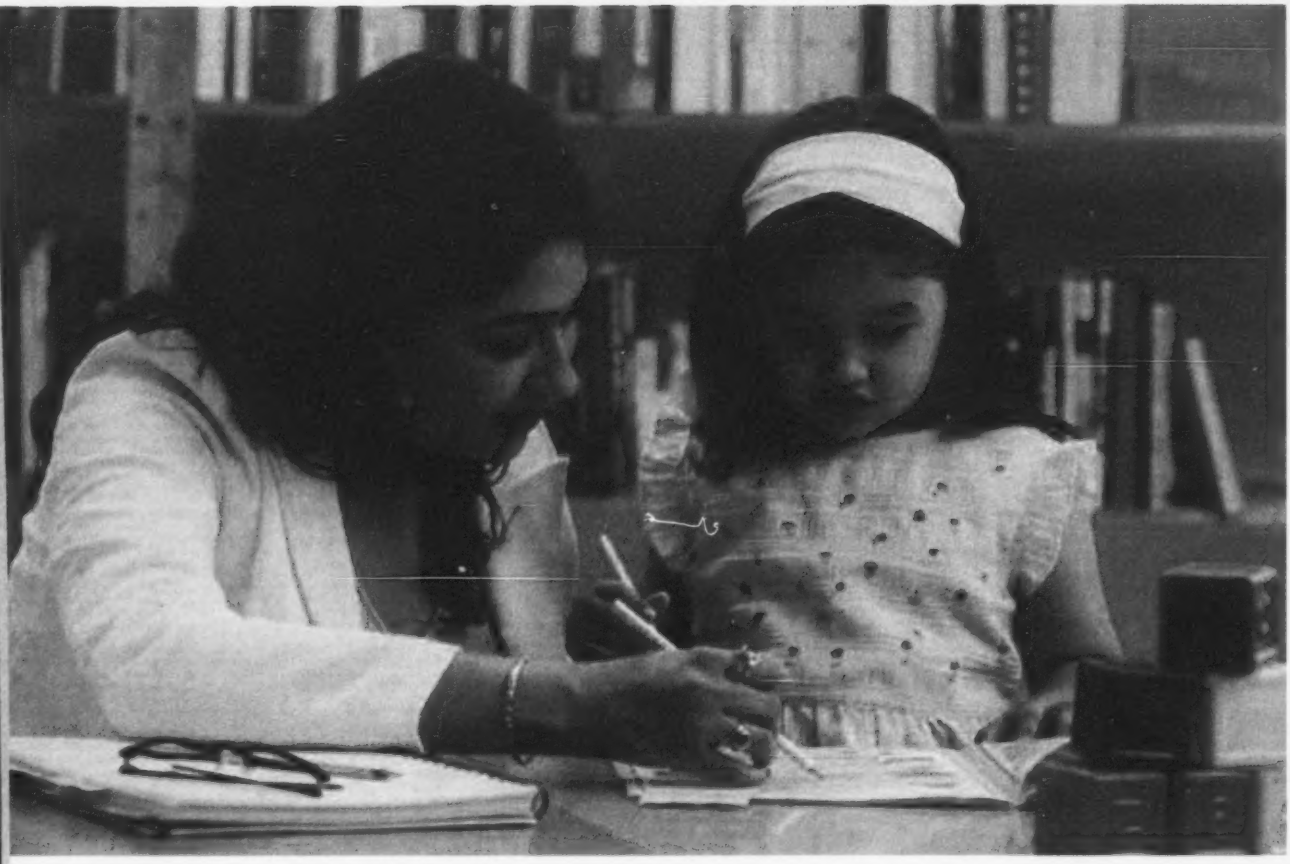
Adopting a Harmonized Sales Tax, effective July 1, 2010, will encourage billions of dollars in new business investment, improve productivity, enhance economic growth and create jobs. B.C.'s harmonized tax will be the lowest in Canada (at 12 per cent) and will remove over $2 billion in costs from B.C. businesses.

First Nations

The Province continues the work of reconciliation by seeking success through agreements at the community level. In December 2009 the Province signed two Reconciliation Protocols; one with six Coastal First Nations and one with the Haida Nation. These protocols increase economic and legal certainty for resource and land use, establish a process for shared decision making and create economic opportunities for First Nations communities.

The Coastal Reconciliation Protocol between the Province and Gitga'at First Nation, Haisla Nation, Heiltsuk Nation, Kitasoo Indian Band, Metlakatla First Nation and Wuikinuxw Nation will increase economic and legal certainty for resource and land use, establish a process for shared decision making and create opportunities for participation in the green economy.

Government continued to work towards concluding final treaty agreements with First Nations. In February, a final agreement was initialled by the Yale First Nation, Canada and the Province the last stage in the treaty negotiation process. The final agreement now needs to be ratified by the Yale First Nation membership, the B.C. Legislature and the Federal Parliament.



Job Training, Education and the Economy

British Columbia's public post-secondary education system is an important element of social and economic progress. Not only does it prepare students to take their places in the province's knowledge economy, but it also provides a means for older workers and those displaced by the economic downturn with the opportunity to update and upgrade their skills to re-enter the workforce. It is a means to bring new British Columbians into the mainstream and help them add the value they bring to the economy to the fullest extent possible. It also provides a way for the disadvantaged to break out of the cycle of poverty and gain the skills and support they need to succeed.

A new Education Quality Assurance designation will give post-secondary students better tools to make informed decisions about where they study and promote British Columbia as an education destination of choice. British Columbia enjoys a strong reputation internationally for providing quality post- secondary education, and government is committed to ensuring students in B.C. continue to receive the best education experience possible. The Education Quality Assurance (EQA) designation is British Columbia's – and Canada's – first education brand or seal of quality. The EQA trademark will be used around the world to promote high-quality, reputable B.C. post-secondary institutions. It will be a standard trademark recognizable worldwide, and will reduce confusion caused by various quality assurance processes.

BladeRunners, the award-winning program for at-risk youth, marked its 15th anniversary by doubling the number of training spaces to over 600, expanding services in communities, and improving access to certificate programs and other enhanced skills. BladeRunners has

made a significant difference in the lives of young British Columbians and the $14 million in new funding over five years provides more youth access to the program. Half of Aboriginal British Columbians are under the age of 28, and BladeRunners provides them with another means to succeed.

The governments of Canada and British Columbia are working in partnership to help older workers remain active in the workforce by jointly investing over $30 million and extending the Targeted Initiative for Older Workers until March 2012. This support will help up to 3,000 unemployed older workers in British Columbia acquire new skills and find jobs.

Immigrants to B.C. seeking employment in regulated occupations will benefit from a new pan-Canadian framework to improve the recognition of foreign qualifications by ensuring that their education, skills, knowledge, and experience are fully utilized in the labour market sooner. The new Pan-Canadian Framework for the Assessment and Recognition of Foreign Qualifications will result in a number of changes for immigrants, including:

- *better information to help immigrants prepare for their assessment requirements,*
- *more opportunities to begin the qualifications assessment process pre-arrival,*
- *assessment processes that are as timely and cost-effective as possible,*
- *opportunities for upgrading qualifications, and*
- *supports to both individuals and employers that will improve the workforce participation of immigrants across the province.*

In 2009-2010, the B.C. Government invested $4.7 million in initiatives to support improved foreign qualifications recognition in the province. Successes to date have included:

- *supports for B.C. regulatory authorities to strengthen their practices for assessing, recognizing and certifying internationally-trained applicants in the regulated occupations,*
- *the development of tools and resources to support B.C. employers,*
- *working with partners in the health sector to connect immigrants and employers, and*
- *pilot programs that provide workplace-focused language training for immigrants.*

In addition, B.C. has assisted more than 5,500 immigrants connect to employment through the BC Skills Connect for Immigrants Program, recently investing $12 million in 2009-10 for continued delivery of the program.

Healthy British Columbians

Great Goal

Lead the way in North America in healthy living and physical fitness.

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Make B.C. the best educated, most literate jurisdiction on the continent.

Great Goal

Build the best system of support in Canada for persons with disabilities, those with special needs, children at risk and seniors.

The health system in British Columbia is a complex network of skilled professionals, organizations and groups that work together to provide value for patients, the public and taxpayers. The key challenge facing the health system is to deliver a high performing sustainable health system – prevention to end-of-life care – in the context of significant growth in demand.

Our Health Care System

British Columbia continues to lead the way when it comes to provinces meeting wait time benchmarks across Canada. According to the report 'Wait Times Tables – A Comparison by Province, 2010' released March 24th, 2010, by the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI), B.C. leads Canada in exceeding the benchmarks for all priority areas: cancer treatment, cardiac care, sight restoration, and joint replacement. These results clearly show that our wait time strategy is working, improving surgical access even as health service demands continue to grow.

The CIHI release reinforces the 2009 Wait Time Alliance report, in which only B.C. and Ontario received an A in every category – radiology hip, knees, cardiac and sight, when it came to meeting wait time benchmarks.

Access to health care has been improved across the province through the completion of new facilities and initiation of new services. The final steel beams connecting the new Patient Care Centre to the existing Diagnostic and Treatment Centre at the Royal Jubilee Hospital in Victoria were put into place on November 30, 2009. Also that month, the first-ever cardiac procedure to be performed at Kelowna General Hospital was successfully completed, marking the first time a percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) has been done anywhere in the province outside of the Lower Mainland and Victoria. Cardiac patients throughout the Interior are now able to get care closer to home, without having to travel to the Lower Mainland.

In July, 2009 the new Chief David Spintlum Lodge and St. Bartholomew's Health Centre in Lytton opened, expanding health-care options in the heart of the Fraser Thompson. The new health centre and assisted living facility improve acute care and community health services to better meet the needs of First Nations and other residents in the Lytton area. The health centre and lodge provide more equitable access to quality, culturally appropriate health services, helping to reduce the health gap between First Nations and other British Columbians.

Construction also began on the new Fort St. John Hospital and Residential Care project. The new Fort St. John Hospital and Residential Care project will include a 55-bed acute care hospital and a 123-bed residential care facility, along with an integrated services centre for food, laundry and materiel services. The new hospital will replace the aging existing facility, originally constructed in 1962.

Powell River became the second B.C. community to pilot a colorectal cancer screening program. Led by the BC Cancer Agency, the $3.8-million Colon Check pilot program was first launched in Penticton in January 2009. It is estimated that each year 2,800 British Columbians will be diagnosed with colorectal cancer, and in the same time period more than 1,100 people in the province will die of the disease. Early diagnosis is a key factor in improved outcomes for colorectal cancer patients and the expansion of the pilot provides new access to a comprehensive program with screening and follow-up.

A unique pilot program was launched in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside and Prince George to seek and treat vulnerable populations who are either undiagnosed or untreated for HIV. The four-year, $48-million pilot called Seek and Treat is the first of its kind in Canada.

By reaching and engaging more British Columbians living with HIV/AIDS in Highly Active Anti-retroviral Therapy, better care will be provided and the virus' ability to spread will be significantly reduced or eliminated.

The number of disorders screened for at birth was increased through an additional $73 million in funding over three years. The BC Newborn Screening Program has expanded screening from six to 18 disorders, using the same simple blood sample already collected shortly after birth. The program will screen about 40,000 newborns in B.C. in 2010/11 and will likely identify about 40 babies with one of these 18 treatable conditions. In October 2010, a 19th disorder (congenital adrenal hyperplasia) will be added to the list of screened conditions for newborns.

The government responded quickly and effectively to the H1N1 threat, minimizing its impact across the province. As a result, influenza activity in British Columbia was well below historic norms and the second wave of the H1N1 pandemic in Canada has officially passed. The majority of the H1N1 flu virus cases in B.C. were relatively mild and were detected by the Province's robust and responsive public health surveillance system.

An important innovation improving B.C.'s responsiveness was the provision of special training for B.C. pharmacists which certified them to provide patients with H1N1 vaccine injections.

Improving health services through research and education

Prince George Regional Hospital was renamed The University Hospital of Northern British Columbia, Prince George, reflecting the changing role of that hospital through investments in academic development, teaching, learning and research in Northern Health. The Northern Medical Program is a partnership between the University of British Columbia, the University of Northern British Columbia, and Northern Health. The goal of the program is to train physicians in the north for rural and northern practice. The Interior's new clinical teaching building at Kelowna General Hospital – the home of the Southern Medical Program – was also completed and began training doctors in the Southern Interior for the first time ever.

Construction began on the new seven-storey, Robert H.N. Ho Research Centre at Vancouver General Hospital, a 69,350 sq. ft. (6,442 sq.m.) facility that will be home to three key research programs: the Centre for Hip Health and Mobility; an expansion to the Vancouver Prostate Centre: and OvCaRe (the Ovarian Cancer Research program). The building cost is $40.1 million and the total project cost, including equipment and personnel, is just over $60 million. Mr. Ho's gift of $15 million completed the private sector funding match.

An innovative service was introduced that provides more B.C. physicians with access to specially-trained pharmacists for detailed information on current drug therapies. The Provincial Academic Detailing (PAD) service provides over 400 physicians with direct access to the knowledge and expertise of pharmacists to help ensure that patients are receiving medications that best suit their individual needs. This new service saves doctors' time while also promoting best practice.

As part of the celebration of the 25th anniversary of Rick Hansen's Man in Motion World Tour, the Province contributed $25 million towards accelerating the search for a cure for spinal cord injury. The research is crucial to moving patient care forward in the field of spinal cord injury, and is expected to have a profound effect on patient outcomes.

Healthier Living

There is a growing body of independent assessments providing good evidence that B.C. is leading or above most Canadian provinces in many healthy living categories.

Statistics Canada's Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS) shows that, compared to other Canadian provinces, British Columbians have the highest youth and adult physical activity rates, are leading in the reduction of overweight and obesity rates, and are among the highest consumers of fruits and vegetables.

In addition, supporting the healthy eating principles of ActNow BC, the Ministry of Agriculture and Foods launched the Produce Availability Initiative. This program provided almost $1 million to help British Columbians living in remote communities have improved

access to fresh vegetables and fruits –promoting healthy food choices for people living throughout the province.

The B.C. Air Quality and Health Benefits Report, conducted by Environ using models developed by Health Canada and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, was released in December, 2009. The report gives an independent, third-party assessment of B.C.'s Air and Climate Action Plans and found that improved air quality due to implementation of the two plans is projected to result in 68 fewer acute exposure deaths, nearly 300 fewer chronic exposure deaths and over 30,000 fewer asthma symptom days in 2020.

The results of the report suggest that the Climate Action Plan, though primarily targeted at reducing greenhouse gases (GHGs) will significantly improve air quality.

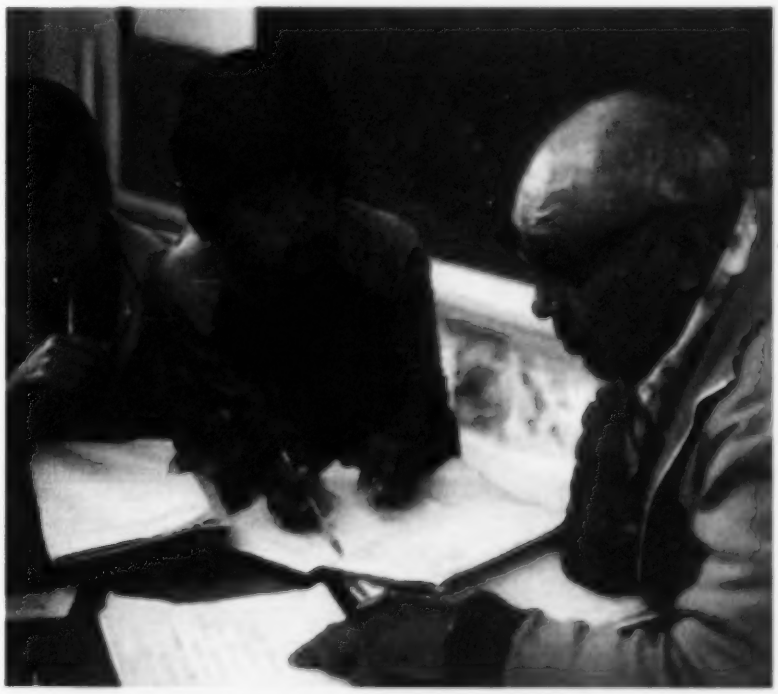
B.C. became the first province in Canada to restrict industrially produced trans fat at food service establishments. Under the revised Public Health Act, the regulation applies to restaurants, delis, cafeterias, educational institutions, health-care institutions, schools, special events and most bakeries, in support of healthier lifestyles for British Columbians.

Education

British Columbia students and schools are making tremendous strides towards improvements in their respective performance, and government is committed to providing an environment that fosters academic growth and success.

Last year we committed to providing all-day kindergarten for all five-year-olds in B.C.. This will be ready for 50 per cent of kindergarten students by September, and for all children entering school in September 2011. We are also continuing to increase the number of StrongStart early learning centres, with more than 310 programs currently in place and operating throughout the Province.

Data on student achievement, including the six-year provincial secondary school completion rate for 2008-09, showed improvements for Aboriginal students, while overall province-wide results remain consistently high. Despite slight annual fluctuations, the overall provincial completion rate has stayed relatively constant since 2003/04, ranging between 78 and 80 per cent.



Aboriginal education enhancement agreements and the development of courses such as BC First Nations 12 and English 12 First Peoples, have helped to engage Aboriginal students and empower them to continue their studies through secondary school and beyond. To date, 49 B.C. school districts have signed Aboriginal education enhancement agreements. These

agreements support the Province's Pacific Leadership Agenda to build new relationships with Aboriginal peoples, as well as help schools meet the needs of Aboriginal students.

Secondary students in British Columbia writing post-secondary Advanced Placement exams had results better than any jurisdiction in North America. B.C.'s average score (3.67) was higher than Canada's average score (3.44) and higher than the United States' (2.88).

School districts in B.C. received an $84-million increase to operating funding for 2009-10, while enrolment continues to decline. Operating funding to school districts increased in 2009-10 to $4.551 billion. Meanwhile the fifth annual report on class size and composition showed that class sizes continued to be smaller than they were prior to the class size and composition legislation that was brought in four years ago.

When the first class size report was released in 2005-06, there were 9,253 classes with more than 30 students. Today, that number has decreased by more than 65 per cent to 3,229. For the fourth consecutive year, more than 95 per cent of classes in school districts throughout B.C. have 30 or fewer students and 99 per cent of classes have 32 or fewer students.

For the ninth consecutive year, average per-pupil funding increased. In 2009-10 the Province delivered an average of $8,318 per pupil – the highest ever – a $200 increase over 2008-09 and a $2,102 increase since 2000-01.

In November, 2009 the Province of B.C. and the First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC) signed an historic agreement that will help First Nations schools more effectively meet the educational expectations of parents and communities, and strengthen the key role First Nations play in the B.C. education system. Through the agreement, government will collaborate with FNESC to implement full per-pupil funding for eligible students attending any band-operated school, subject to that school fully meeting conditions, including certification requirements as established by the First Nations Schools Association.

Supports for Those Most Vulnerable

Government funding for autism intervention and funding programs was increased by $1.6 million in 2009. It is now more than 11 times the 2001 budget of $4.1 million, totalling more than $46 million in 2009-10. As a result, more than 6,400 children and youth diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and their families are served now, compared to only a few hundred prior to 2000.

The Personalized Supports Initiative was launched on February 1, 2010, focusing on adults who have both significant limitations in adaptive functioning and a confirmed diagnosis of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) or Pervasive Developmental Disorder, also known as Autism Spectrum Disorder. These adults often require a variety of individualized supports, such as basic skills training and daily living support, to help them live independently in their community. Supported by a three-year investment of $23.2 million, the initiative augments existing supports for individuals or connects them to supports in the community that will address their needs. An estimated 170 people a year will receive a variety of services targeted to their needs through this funding.

The governments of Canada and British Columbia announced $15.5 million for the construction of 322 modular housing units for seniors and persons with disabilities to be constructed by four B.C. modular housing manufacturers. As part of the Seniors' Rental

Housing initiative, the modular units will be shipped to selected rural communities across the Province to provide affordable housing for independent seniors and persons with disabilities.

The primary focus of the Seniors' Rental Housing initiative is to provide affordable housing in rural and remote communities. This project also creates employment and stimulates local economies through the use of local modular manufacturers. As well, the modular housing units will use close to 100 per cent B.C. wood sourced from Pine Beetle infected forests, supporting the new Wood First Act. The Act requires provincially-funded building projects use wood as the primary construction material.

The Province came together with the City of Vernon and other community partners to create Under One Roof, an innovative development with a variety of supportive housing options in Vernon. The $1.9-million new development opened on January 27, 2010 and provides five apartments of affordable, supportive housing for people with developmental disabilities and low-income families and one condo for affordable homeownership.

Over its first year of operation, B.C.'s Homelessness Intervention Project exceeded its targets to house homeless people and provide them with support services. Since it was launched in March 2009, the project has housed over 2,400 formerly homeless people in five B.C. communities, including 512 in Victoria and 252 in Surrey. The original target of housing 2,000 people in 18 months was surpassed by creating strong, collaborative relationships between government and communities to move more people in to housing and quickly connect them to the support services they need.

The Homelessness Intervention Project represents a co-ordinated and integrated approach between levels of governments and not for profit organizations to address an important issue for B.C.'s communities. The ultimate goal is to help people stay housed, which is essential to reducing chronic homelessness over the long term. Since 2001, 18,905 units of new housing have been completed, are under development or have had funding committed.

In October, 2009 the Province has introduced the Assistance to Shelter Act to keep homeless British Columbians safe from extreme weather by giving police the authority to take people at risk of harm to emergency shelters. When an extreme weather alert has been issued, the Act allows the police to take people to safety. Police first have to be satisfied that there is risk of harm due to the weather conditions before taking a person to an emergency shelter. Once at the shelter, the person has the right to decide whether or not they want to stay at the shelter. The shelter may provide the opportunity for individuals to connect with outreach workers, who can help them access medical, financial and long-term housing supports.

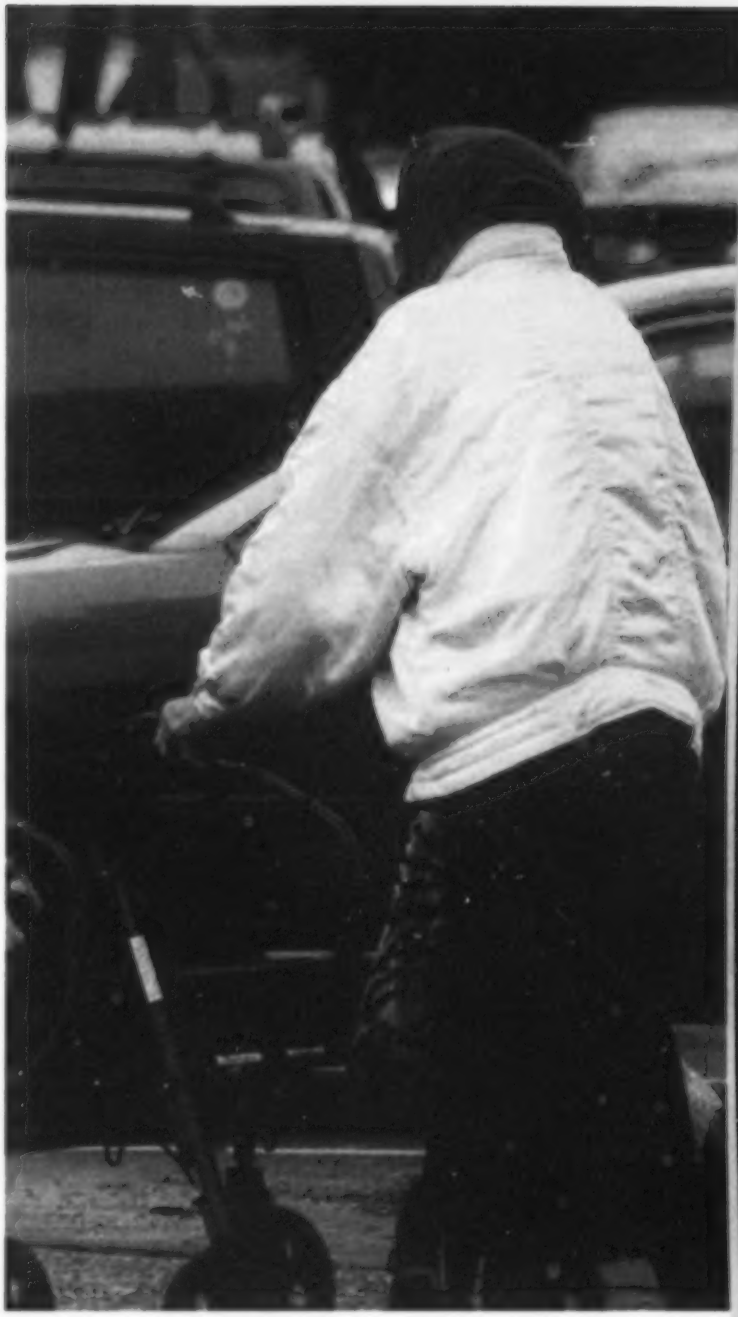
Seniors Care

The government introduced a number of improvements to the way residential care is provided in British Columbia, to provide better protection for residents, increased accountability for licensees and a more fair funding model.

The Residents' Bill of Rights was introduced on October 22, 2009 to ensure that residents in British Columbia care facilities know their rights. The Residents' Bill of Rights promote health, safety and dignity in an environment to support high-quality care. The legislation builds on B.C.'s commitment to care that will protect adults of all ages by providing a public display of residents' rights, improving transparency and accountability in care facilities.

As well, the B.C. government introduced the BC Care Aide & Community Health Worker registry, to help promote public safety and at the same time benefit the members of the profession. The registry helps ensure that individuals working for publically-funded employers are providing appropriate standards of care, while also including supports for workers to encourage career mobility and development.

A more equitable rate structure was introduced for all residential care clients to reduce the burden on low-income seniors and support ongoing improvements to the residential care system. For the first time in at least a generation, residential care rates will be reduced for the lowest-income clients. Under the new rate structure approximately 25 per cent of clients with the lowest incomes will see a reduction in their rates, resulting in individual annual savings of up to $540 per year. The new rate structure will ensure clients with the lowest incomes continue to pay the lowest rate in Canada.



More than 90 per cent of all residential care clients will receive government subsidy toward their room and board costs. Every client will continue to have 100 per cent of their health-care costs completely covered by the provincial government. Everyone who needs residential care services will be able to access them – hardship provisions are available for all clients who are unable to pay. Since 2001 there has been 6,327 net new and 7,453 replacement residential care beds, assisted living and supportive housing units created in communities across B.C. to ensure seniors have access to quality homes they deserve.

A Healthy Environment

Great Goal

Lead the world in sustainable environmental management, with the best air and water quality, and the best fisheries management, bar none.

Commitment to Meaningful Change

The B.C. government is steadfast in its dedication to pursuing key climate action initiatives and implementing the Climate Action Plan to ensure our world is a better place for our children.

In July 2009, the Ministry of Environment and the Climate Action Secretariat released the British Columbia Provincial Greenhouse Gas Inventory Report 2007. The report establishes the emissions baseline required to assess the progress the province is making towards its 2012, 2016, 2020 and 2050 greenhouse gas reduction targets under the Greenhouse Gas Reductions Target Act. Emissions will be tracked from this baseline to establish trends across these sectors throughout the province, measuring our progress toward a cleaner, greener British Columbia.

The Premier attended, as part of a Canadian delegation, the United Nations Climate Change Summit in Copenhagen. B.C. was able to highlight and promote our growing expertise in clean technologies to world leaders on Climate Action and Clean Energy Day, held during the Olympics.

B.C. also plays a key role in the Western Climate Initiative, comprised of a partnership of seven U.S. states and four Canadian provinces. This partnership has resulted in agreement on key parameters for a regional cap and trade system.

BC hosted the first meeting of Western Climate Initiative partners that was carbon neutral. As a key member of the WCI, B.C. wanted to move forward on the carbon front by offsetting the eight tonnes of carbon from those meetings to show our continued commitment to being a carbon neutral government. The meetings, held in Vancouver, brought together the eleven WCI partners from across Canada and the United States. The carbon output from travel for the meetings was neutralized through purchasing offsets from the Pacific Carbon Trust.

The Pacific Carbon Trust, a Crown Corporation created to deliver made-in-BC greenhouse gas offsets to reduce carbon footprint and drive the growth of BC's low-carbon economy, delivered its first 34,370 tonnes of emission offsets to government.

The Olympic Games allowed us to showcase the world's largest fleet of hydrogen fuel cell buses, marking the beginning of a new era in zero-emission public transit. These buses produce no smog-creating or greenhouse gas emissions, and make the Whistler bus fleet one of the greenest in the world.

Green Communities

Local governments from across B.C. have joined the Province and the Union of British Columbia Municipalities to find ways to tackle the challenges posed by climate change. 178 local governments, representing approximately 94 per cent of the local governments in B.C., have signed the British Columbia Climate Action Charter. In doing so, these communities are committing to developing strategies and taking action to achieve three goals: becoming carbon neutral with respect to their operations by 2012; measuring and reporting on their community's greenhouse gas emissions profile; and creating compact, more energy-efficient communities.

Under B.C.'s Climate Action Revenue Incentive program, the Province returned nearly $2.9 million in carbon tax dollars to local governments who are committed to becoming carbon neutral by 2012.

Performance Measures for Great Goals

Goal 1: BC best educated, most literate	Baseline	Current Status	2015/2016 Target
School Readiness • % kindergarten students entering school "ready to learn"	72.1% (04/05 restated)	71.4% (08/09)	85%
Student Literacy • Program for International Student Assessment Ranking	2nd in Canada, 3rd internationally	3rd in Canada, 6th internationally (measured every 2nd year)	1st in Canada, improve internationally
High School Graduation	79% (04/05)	79% (08/09)	85%
Post-secondary completion	56% (2004), Canadian average 57%	59.6% (2009), Canadian average 61.4%	Exceed Canadian average

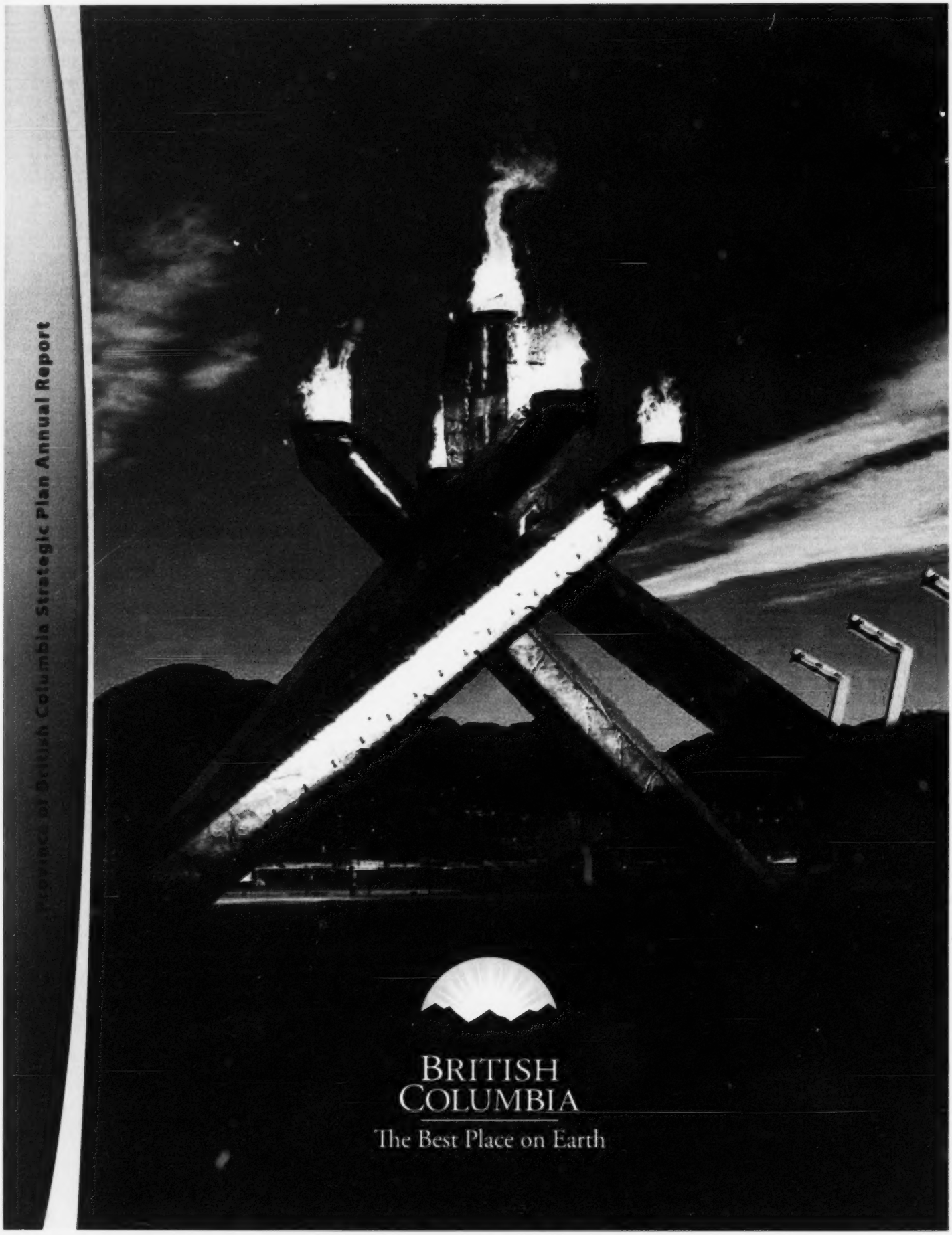
Goal 2: Lead the way in healthy living and fitness	Baseline	Current Status	2015/2016 Target
Life Expectancy at birth	81 yrs (2004)	81.6 yrs (2009), highest in Canada	>81 yrs
Physical activity of British Columbians • More than 30 minutes of moderate physical activity per day	58.1% (2003)	58% (2008), 1st in Canada	73%
British Columbians who are overweight	42.3%, lowest % in Canada (2003)	44.6% (2008), lowest % in Canada	32%
Tobacco use	15%, lowest % in Canada (2003)	14.7% (2008), lowest % in Canada	13%

Goal 3: Best system of supports	Baseline	Current Status	2015/2016 Target
Disabled British Columbians who are working • Of those who wish to work	52%[1] (2001), Canadian 41.5%	56.5% (2005/06, most recent data available)	62%[2]
Disadvantaged children in age appropriate grade	86% (2005)	85.1% (2009)	95%
British Columbia seniors living in institutions • Seniors 75 or older in health care or related facilities	10.3% (2001), 2nd lowest in Canada	10% (2006) Lowest in Canada	Maintain Canadian 2nd place rank

Goal 4: Sustainable environmental management	Baseline	Current Status	2015/2016 Target
Average fine particulate concentration in major metropolitan areas (DONE)	Vancouver is 2nd lowest in Canada (2004)	Vancouver is 1st lowest in Canada (2009)	Lowest in Canada
Province wide greenhouse gas emissions	68.0 million metric tonnes in 2007[3]	68.7 million metric tonnes in 2008 (most recent data available)	6% below 2007 levels by 2012; 18% by 2016; 33% by 2020
Water quality • % of 30 B.C. water bodies with stable or improving trends	96% (04/05)	96% (2009/10)	>96%

Goal 5: More jobs per capita	Baseline	Current Status	2015/2016 Target
Number of new jobs per capita	1st (2005)	9th (2009)	1st

1 Baseline changed due to change in data collection method
2 Target revised by MHSD as of May 22, 2009
3 Historical data was revised by Environment Canada in their annual report for the year ending March 31, 2009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